

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at a
nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence drawn from
5 the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16,
18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46,
48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58 60, 62, and 64.

2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a
10 nucleotide sequence that:

(a) encodes the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID
NO:14; and

(b) hybridizes under stringent conditions to the
nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:13 or the
15 complement thereof.

3. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a
nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in
SEQ ID NO:14.
20

4. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a
nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in
SEQ ID NO:2.

25 5. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a
nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in
SEQ ID NO:8.

6. An isolated and purified human ENZ66 protein,
30 wherein said human ENZ66 protein comprises the sequence of SEQ
ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30,
32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58 60, 62,
or 64.

35 7. A process for identifying a compound useful for the
treatment of a patient for a condition drawn from the group

consisting of hypertension, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, stroke, kidney failure, and progressive renal failure, comprising contacting an ENZ66 preparation with said compound for a time sufficient to allow the compound to
5 interact with or bind to the ENZ66 preparation, and determining whether said compound inhibits the activity of the ENZ66 preparation.

8. The process of claim 7, wherein said ENZ66
10 preparation comprises an isolated ENZ66 protein, polypeptide or peptide.

9. The process of claim 7, wherein said ENZ66
15 preparation comprises a recombinant cell that expresses an ENZ66 protein, polypeptide, or peptide.

10. The process of claim 7, wherein said ENZ66
20 preparation comprises a transgenic nonhuman animal that expresses a human ENZ66 protein, polypeptide or peptide.

11. The process of claim 7, wherein said ENZ66
preparation comprises a human ENZ66 protein, polypeptide, or peptide.

25 12. A process for treating a disease drawn from the group consisting of hypertension, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, stroke, kidney failure, and progressive renal failure, in a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising administering a therapeutically
30 effective amount of a compound that inhibits ENZ66 activity to said mammal.

13. The process of claim 12, wherein said mammal is a
35 human.

14. A method for selectively inhibiting ENZ66 activity
in a human patient, comprising administering a compound that
selectively inhibits activity of an ENZ66 protein, polypeptide
or peptide in said patient, wherein the activity of the
5 compound does not result in significant toxic side effects in
said patient.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the inhibition of the
ENZ66 protein, polypeptide or peptide reduces blood pressure
10 in said patient.

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